

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 8. (cancelled)

9. (new) A method for the numerical simulation of a pressing process comprising the steps consisting of:

recording at least one meta-model consisting of a permanent collection of numerical representations of elementary constituents of pressing tools, each of the elementary constituents being defined in the form of finite elements, and comprising numerical static attributes,

recording a numerical model of deformation of a blank used in the process to be simulated,

selecting a subset of the permanent collection, for temporary recording of elementary constituents representing a particular pressing tool corresponding to a simulation in question, the subset constituting a specific collection in the form of digitized finite elements,

parameterizing the digitized finite elements of the specific collection, as well as the corresponding attributes according to characteristics of the process to be simulated,

recording numerical information representing relative movements of components of the specific collection, according to operating cycles of the pressing process to be simulated,

recalculating numerical models of deformation of the blank according to numerical information recorded on the one hand in the parameterized specific collection, the numerical model of the blank, and specific movements on the other hand, and

generating a numerical or visual representation of the deformations of the blank by the application of the recalculated numerical model.

10. (new) A simulation method according to Claim 9, wherein the selecting step comprises modifying the state of the elementary constituents that are not pertinent with regard to the selected constituents.

11. (new) A simulation method according to Claim 9, further comprising a step of loading, from an external information medium, at least part of the collection parameterizing information.

12. (new) A simulation method according to Claim 9, further comprising a step of loading, from an external information medium, the model of the blank.

13. (new) A simulation method according to Claim 9, further comprising a step of loading, from an external information medium, the numerical representation of the subset.

14. (new) A simulation method according to Claim 9, wherein the step of forming the specific collection further comprises displaying a graphical interface and recording information captured from the graphical interface.

15. (new) A simulation method according to Claim 14, wherein the step of displaying a graphical interface comprises personalizing a prerecorded interface, wherein said personalization at least partly takes account of the information coming from the prior steps of the method.

16. (new) A simulation method according to Claim 9, further comprising defining several levels of use, with one of the levels of use, supervision, requiring a common generic parameterizing defining to a major extent the pressing method concerned and the other, basic, levels of use, basic, requiring no more than partial parameterizing, complementary and specific, benefiting from the previously performed parameterizing of the supervision level.